

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 DOTE-00 CG-00 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 FMC-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 DLOS-09
OES-07 L-03 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-11 /105 R

DRAFTED BY EB/TRA/MA:CTAYLOR, JR.:PP
APPROVED BY EB/TRA/MA:RKBANK
IO/TRC:CHARTLEY (INFO)
DOT:ADMWALLACE
EUR/NE:DGOODMAN (SUBS)
USCG:GYOEST (INFO)

-----040656 191332Z /47

O 191321Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 127578

LONDON FOR USDEL TO IMCO COUNCIL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EWWT, IMCO

SUBJECT: VICE-CHAIRMANSHIP OF IMCO COUNCIL

1. BRITISH EMBASSY SHIPPING ATTACHE CALLED DEPARTMENT MAY 18TH TO REPORT THAT CANADIAN COAST GUARD COMMISSIONER O'NEIL HAD INFORMED BRITISH EMBASSY IN OTTAWA THAT IN HIS OPINION THERE IS NO CHANCE OF NORTH AMERICAN CANDIDATE BEING ELECTED VICE CHAIRMAN OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION (IMCO) COUNCIL. O'NEIL TOLD BRITISH HE WAS PREPARED TO RUN IF ASKED BUT WAS NOT ENTHUSIASTIC.

2. BRITISH EMBASSY HERE ALSO REPORTED RECEIVING MESSAGE
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FROM HEAD OF SHIPPING POLICY DIVISION LANCHIN IN WHICH LANCHIN REPORTED THAT IMCO SECRETARY GENERAL WILLING TO DO HIS BEST FOR O'NEIL BUT THAT SECGEN WOULD OF COURSE HAVE TO QUOTE KEEP OUT OF THE WAY UNQUOTE IF LDC CANDIDATE MATERIALIZES. LANCHIN ADDED THAT WHILE HE UNDERSTOOD THAT U.S. MAY LEAN TOWARD ALGERIAN (TIGHILT), U.K. STILL FAVORS THE RELUCTANT O'NEIL OUT OF APPREHENSION THAT ALGERIAN

WOULD BE IN GOOD POSITION TO RUN FOR CHAIRMANSHIP IN 1979.
LANCHIN ALSO NOTED THAT IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER TIGHILT
WOULD BE A CANDIDATE, OR EVEN WHETHER HE WILL ATTEND 40TH
COUNCIL SESSION.

3. COMMENT: O'NEIL'S COMMENT CONFIRMS OUR OWN STRONG
DOUBTS ABOUT ELECTABILITY OF A CANADIAN CANDIDATE FOR VICE
CHAIRMAN AT THIS POINT. FURTHERMORE, WE WOULD BE
SURPRISED IF LDC CANDIDATE DID NOT MATERIALIZE,AND THUS
WE ANTICIPATE EXTENT TO WHICH SECGEN COULD PROMOTE O'NEIL
CANDIDACY WILL BE LIMITED. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE MORE
REALISTIC AND PRODUCTIVE AT THIS POINT TO SEEK ACCEPTABLE
LDC CANDIDATE FOR VICE CHAIRMAN THAN TO CONTINUE
PURSUING O'NEIL CANDIDACY. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NOMINATION, MARINE TRANSPORTATION, ELECTION CANDIDATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE127578
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CTAYLOR, JR.:PP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780211-0410
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780539/aaaabgvc.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 317d179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2633038
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VICE-CHAIRMANSHIP OF IMCO COUNCIL
TAGS: EWWT, UK, IMCO
To: LONDON
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/317d179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014